

PA Patient & Provider Network: Electronic Health Information Exchange



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Overview

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2. How Does it Work?
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8. Questions



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What is eHIE?

Electronic Health Information Exchange is the secure exchange of protected health information in a digital format.

Locally, eHIE occurs within physician practices, health systems, and other provider organizations through their own electronic health records (EHR) systems.

Regionally, providers connect to a network known as a health information organization, or HIO. Patient records held by an HIO-connected provider are available to other providers connected to that same HIO.

Statewide, HIOs connect to the **PA Patient & Provider Network, or P3N**. A main service of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services' eHealth Partnership, the P3N facilitates the secure sharing of patient information across a larger geographic area as well as enhanced provider reporting.

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How it Works

HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE IN PA HOW IT WORKS TO IMPROVE YOUR CARE



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Benefits of eHIE

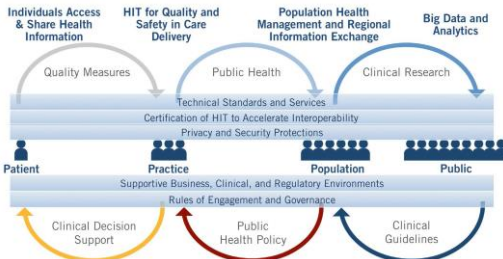
Electronic Health Information Exchange (eHIE) implementation can:

- **Increase the speed and accuracy** of information available for individuals and populations
- **Alert providers/care teams** to an admission of patient
- **Reduce readmissions and redundant tests** through eHIE with other providers who have treated the same patients
- **Increase patient satisfaction** by reducing their time spent in the health care system and eliminating frustrating duplication

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National Vision: ONC



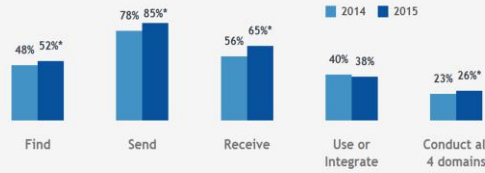
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Hospital Data 2014 & 2015

The percent of hospitals electronically sending, receiving, and finding key clinical information grew significantly between 2014 and 2015

Figure 1: Percent of U.S. non-federal acute care hospitals that electronically find patient health information, and send, receive, and use patient summary of care records from sources outside their health system, 2014-2015



NOTE: See the Appendix Table for more definitions of find, send, receive and use/integrate. *Significantly different from previous year (p < 0.05). SOURCE: ONC/American Hospital Association (AHA), AHA Annual Survey Information Technology Supplement



Commonwealth Vision for eHIE

Act 76 of 2016

- As of July 8, 2016, establishes the eHealth Partnership program within the Department of Human Services
- Continues the work of the now-disbanded PA eHealth Partnership Authority
- Develop/establish/maintain **statewide electronic health information exchange**
- Develop/maintain **directory of health care provider contact info**
- Develop/adopt **interoperability standards**
- Develop/maintain statewide **consent registry** (opt-out model supports opt-back-in for PA's network – P3N)
- Develop **"certification" requirements** for connected entities
- Establish/collect **fees** to sustain eHealth services
- Develop/conduct **public information programs**
- Annual Report** to Governor/Legislature



HIOs and HISPs in PA

HEALTH INFORMATION ORGANIZATIONS (HIO)

ClinicalConnect Health Information Exchange	Pittsburgh
eVantage Health	Bethlehem
HealthShare Exchange of Southeastern Pennsylvania	Philadelphia
Keystone Health Information Exchange	Danville
Lancaster General Health	Lancaster
Mount Nittany Health	State College

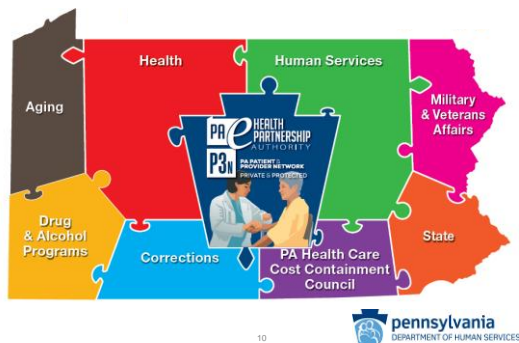
HEALTH INFORMATION SERVICE PROVIDERS (HISP)

Allied Health Information Exchange Company	Mechanicsburg
Carilion	Forham Park, NJ
Keystone Health Information Exchange	Danville
MountD	Fort Lee, NJ
MBO Corporation	King of Prussia
Secure Exchange Solutions	Rockville, MD

Healthcare city noted does not necessarily correspond to geographic service areas.



The Most Connected Program You May Not Know



Managing Patient Consent



Act 76 of 2016 requires the eHealth Partnership to:

- Promulgate a **consent form including notice** of a patient's ability to decline to allow exchange of the patient's electronic health information in the HIE.
- Opportunity to Opt Out & Opt Back In

Available Consumer Materials:
<http://www.paehealth.org/consent>



Opt-Out/Opt-Back-In Form

OPT-OUT OR OPT-BACK-IN FORM FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA PATIENT & PROVIDER NETWORK (P3N)



INSTRUCTIONS:

- STEP #1** - Please read the material on the back of this form before completing the form.
STEP #2 - Complete Section 1 to opt out **OR** Section 2 to opt back in to the P3N. Please initial that you have read and understand each of the statements in either Section 1 **OR** Section 2.
STEP #3 - Please complete **ALL** of the remaining sections of the form and sign.

SECTION 1 - To OPT OUT of the Pennsylvania Patient & Provider Network (P3N) complete this section:

<input type="checkbox"/>	By submitting this Opt-Out Form information about me will NOT be accessible to healthcare providers and other authorized users (including for emergency services) by use of the P3N.
Initial	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that by opting out, this form will be shared with healthcare providers and other authorized users so they know that I do NOT want my information accessible in P3N.
Initial	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I may choose to participate in the P3N again at any time by submitting this form as an Opt-Back-In form.
Initial	

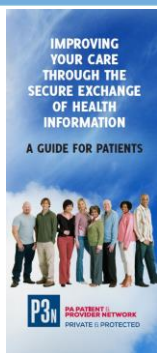
SECTION 2 - To OPT BACK IN to the Pennsylvania Patient & Provider Network (P3N) complete this section:

<input type="checkbox"/>	By completing this section, information about me (including information created prior to today's date) WILL be accessible to healthcare providers and other authorized users (including for emergency services) by use of the P3N.
Initial	

SECTION 3 - Please complete each area below:



Patient/Consumer Brochure



Brochure Available in the Provider Toolkit at www.paehealth.org



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eHealth Resources: Choose Your HIO

Choose Your HIO: A Guide for Healthcare Providers

Leveraging your electronic health record investment to achieve effective sharing of your patients' clinical information with other providers to improve care coordination and reporting to state government registries including Medicaid is attainable through a connection to a health information organization (HIO) that is certified to participate in the PA Patient & Provider Network, or P3N. Additional information about the P3N and the Department of Human Services' (DHS) eHealth Partnership program is available in the [Resources](#) area of our website.

Five certified HIOs currently operate within Pennsylvania. Information about these HIOs—including contacts, provider types served, structure, services provided, service areas, and financial/fee structure—is in the chart below. The information provided is based on questionnaires completed by the HIOs in late 2015. This information will be updated periodically and HIOs are available to address your questions.

The decision about which HIO to choose is entirely up to you. However, the DHS eHealth Partnership program, which administers the P3N, recommends that you keep the following questions in mind as you pursue an affiliation:

- Do I want an electronic health information exchange (eHIE) service that is fully integrated with my electronic health record (EHR) system, or one that works through a portal? Portals are generally less expensive, but may not add to your workflow as readily.
- Do I want to be able to pick and choose which documents I see from other providers, or do I want to receive a longitudinal record?
- Do I want the ability to download clinical information from other sources into my EHR? If so, do I want this to occur automatically, or do I want to make this decision on a case-by-case basis?
- How do I want these imported documents to be identified?
- Do I want all of the records in my system to be available to others in the P3N, or do I have special considerations (such as mental health, HIV/AIDS, or substance abuse treatment) that require restriction of some documents?
- Does my bill vendor support "push-and-pull" connection to an HIO, or do I need an HIO that can support specialized connection services such as data transformation and translation?
- If I do require special connection services, does the HIO have experience with my EHR vendor's system(s)?
- What other services does the HIO offer, and do I want or need them?
- Some HIOs charge a fee for connection and a separate fee for ongoing participation. Which HIOs have fees that I can afford?
- Does the HIO enable more efficient reporting into state government or support of public health reporting (immunization, cancer, communicable disease/syndrome surveillance, lab reporting) and Medicaid clinical quality measurement reporting?
- Does the HIO specialize in a particular geography or support a particular provider type? Are these distinctions important to me?
- Does it matter whether or not the HIO absorbs my patients' information into a clinical repository? Such repositories are often required to support advanced analytic capabilities offered by the HIO.

The chart is also downloadable in [Excel](#) and [PDF](#) formats.



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eHealth Resources: Provider Toolkit

Electronic Health Information Exchange in Pennsylvania

PROVIDER TOOLKIT



The Provider Toolkit includes:

- Fact Sheets
- Everything You Always Wanted to Know about eHIE Guide
- Choose Your HIO Table
- P3N Consumer Brochure in English and Spanish
- Opt-Out Opt-In Form in English and Spanish



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eHealth Partnership: Key Activities

- **Statewide Connections**
 - *Connected:* ClinicalConnect Health Information Exchange, eVantageHealth, HealthShare Exchange of Southeastern Pennsylvania, Keystone Health Information Exchange, Mount Nittany Exchange
 - *Expected:* Lancaster General
 - *In Discussion:* Behavioral Health HIE
- **Interstate Connections**
 - New Jersey, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New York
 - North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Arizona
- **Onboarding Grant Support**
 - HIOs (funding for onboarding providers who treat Medicaid patients)

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eHealth Partnership: Key Activities

- **Public Health Gateway:** A more efficient way to independently collect, store, and analyze health-related data. A better way to communicate with health care providers—and each other.
 - Partnership of the eHealth, DOH, and DHS
 - Streamlines reporting to:
 - DOH Public Health Systems
 - Immunization Registry
 - Cancer Reporting
 - Syndromic (Disease) Surveillance
 - Electronic Lab Reporting
 - DHS
 - Clinical Quality Measures
- **HIPAA+ Data:** HIV and AIDS, Mental Health, and Drug and Alcohol
- **Safety Net Providers:** A health care or community-based organization that provides health care services to the commonwealth's most vulnerable and at-risk citizens.
- **Consolidation with DHS**

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How to Engage with Us



- Register as a stakeholder. <http://www.paehealth.org/become-stakeholder>
- Check out our resources: <http://www.paehealth.org/resources>
- Share your written feedback with eHealth at ra-paehealth@pa.gov

The eHealth Partnership welcomes your feedback!

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Kelly Hoover Thompson



Executive Director
Pennsylvania Department of Human Services | eHealth Partnership

Kelly Hoover Thompson serves as Executive Director of DHS' eHealth Partnership. Previously she held a variety of roles with the eHealth Partnership, including General Counsel, Chief Privacy Officer, and Executive Policy Officer. She has been a leader of Pennsylvania's electronic Health Information Exchange efforts since 2008, first beginning as a private-sector stakeholder to eHealth. In her current role she is responsible for the leadership of the eHealth Partnership's team and execution of key priorities. She is the lead staff person responsible for working with the eHealth Partnership's advisory board. She has focused her work on the eHealth Partnership's privacy and security framework, consumer consent management, interstate connectivity, and alignment of state and federal laws. Thompson is the co-founder and co-chair of the Commonwealth's Privacy and Security Practice Group and serves nationally and locally as a health policy and privacy advisor.

Before returning to the Commonwealth, Thompson was a senior advocate of policy and regulatory matters for The Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP), representing more than 250 members. In that role, she served as an eHealth Partnership stakeholder, establishing privacy, security and standards for the statewide exchange. For nearly eight years she handled professional and general liability defense claims, including serving as Statewide Mediation Coordinator for the Pennsylvania Insurance Department's Micare Fund. Thompson also has more than a decade of experience as an adjunct instructor of paralegal studies at Harrisburg-area professional/technical schools. She began her legal career as Assistant Counsel with the Pennsylvania Senate.

Thompson serves on the board of the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg, focusing on programs to provide safe shelter for women and children and to raise awareness of human trafficking in the Commonwealth. She also serves as an advisor promoting organ and tissue donation. Thompson resides in Dauphin County with her husband and four children.

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DHS eHealth Partnership

QUESTIONS?

For further information:
www.paehealth.org

Twitter: [@PAHumanServices](https://twitter.com/PAHumanServices)

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